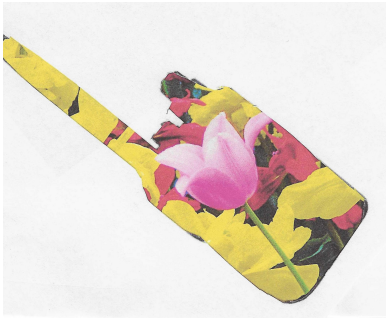
MAY FLOWERS



WEST VIRGINIA SPLATTER

MAY 2025

JACKSON COUNTY HAMFEST AND FLEA MARKET
SUNDAY MAY 4, 2025

The Jackson County Amateur Radio Club will be holding their annual hanfest on Sunday, May 4, this year at the Ripley Middle School, One West School Street in Ripley. For more information contact Roy Moore, KB8ZSG at kb8zsg@gmail.com

SAVE THESE DATES!!!!

Saturday-Sunday, June 28-29, 2005	**ARRL Field Day**
Saturday, July 19, 2025	**Museum of Radio and Technology Summer Swap Meet**
Saturday, July 26, 2025	**The 67th WV State Amateur Radio Convention**
Saturday, August 9, 2025	**The Tri-State Amateur Radio Hamfest in Huntington, WV**
Saturday, August 16th, 2025	**The Portsmouth (Ohio) Radio Club HamFest**
Saturday, October 11, 2025	**Wood County (WV) Area Hamfest**
Sunday, November 2, 2025	**The Kanawha Amateur Radio Club Tailgate Hamfest**

WEST VIRGINIA SPLATTER BACK ISSUES

The West Virginia Amateur Radio Club has posted back issues of WV SPLATTER on their website at www.wv8ar.com (last month I left out the "8".)This emphasizes our intention that WV Splatter is for all hams in West Virginia. Reposting WV SPLATTER on other club websites is encouraged..

I continually need more and different types of articles for WV SPLATTER. If you know of an event coming up in a couple of months, have an idea for an article you want to write, or something you want me to research and write about, then drop me an email at nettlescreek@frontier.com

Use the same address to submit email addresses for anyone you think might be interested in being on the WV SPLATTER Distribution List. They don't have to be in West Virginia, they don't even have to be a ham.

I was recently asked about including advertisements for ham gear in WV SPLATTER. Ads for ham radio equipment, tools, and related items are welcome. Get them to me by the fifteenth of the month and I'll include them in the next months WV SPLATTER.

A METRIC TAPE MEASURE

A few of us have decided to make roll up J-pole antennas for our handy talkies and mobile use during em comm events. Every set of instructions gave the dimensions in centimeters instead of inches. Instead of doing all the burdensome math, I decided to get a replacement for my broken meter stick. To my surprise it wasn't easy. The big box stores didn't have any. My local Ace Hardware could order one, but didn't keep any in stock. It would cost over twenty dollars.

I went next door to the new Dollar Tree. The only tape measure they had is pictured below. Total price $1.25.

IT MAY NOT BE NATO APPROVED BUT THEY ARE EASY TO REMEMBER!

As a new ham one major problem of mine was remembering call signs. Using the NATO phonetic alphabet didn't help much. I often subsituted Alpha for Eight in my own call just because it was easier to say. At my first Field Day a number of people used “Whiskey Eight Germany Kilo” instead of “Whiskey Eight Gulf Kilo”. I soon realized the phonetic alphabet should be a tool for clarity not an absolute demand.

This was even more obvious when I met Robbie Robinson, N4PAH who gave his call sign on the air as “November Four Possums Are Hungry.” More recently Dan Hall KF8BKS has been using “Burger King Sucks” as his suffix. Mike Smoot, KD8GWH, is often heard using “George Washington High” as his suffix. I don't know if he went to school there or not.

While David Poe, W8IW has always been patient with my questions, I remember his call as “W Eight (or Wait), I Won't”. Similarly, Tim Stinespring, K8RRT is easy to remember if you think “KATE is Really Really Tall”I've never heard Hal Turley, W8HC use it, but I remember his call sign as “Weighty Horse Crap”. Not very flattering, but it is memorable..

Bob Delauter, KE8ZEC is known as “Zombies Eating Cannabis”. Ed Lomax, KM4PBY became “Peanut Butter's Yummy”. Brant Seacrist, KE8SBH, works at a set of locks on the Kanawha River, so it was an obvious decision to remember his suffix as “Small Boat Handler”. Jim Mangus, WB8YST sticks in my head as “You Should Talk”. When we first met he told me my call sign was easy to remember since “PNY” was the maker of computer thumb drives and other accessories. I remember it as “Pennsylvania New York”.

No matter how odd your own call sign is there is bound to be some memonic to help you and other people remember it. Even if it's more funny than flattering.

WV CLUB, ARES & SKYWARN NETS BY DAY OF THE WEEK

Daily

Eastern Panhandle Traffic Net
(Jefferson, Morgan & Berkley Counties)
Daily 6:45 PM
147.255 MHz Tone 123

Sunday

Northern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club
Sunday at 7:00 PM
Digital net 441.825

Kanawha ARES Net
Sundays at 8:00 PM
145.350 PL 91.5

Ohio County ARES Net
Sunday 8:00 PM
146.760 MHz

District 6 ARES Net
(Mineral, Grant, Hardy, Morgan, Jefferson, Berkeley and Hampshire Counties)
Saturday 9:00 PM 145.370 MHz

Kanawha Amateur Radio Club Net
Sundays at 8:30 PM
145.350 PL 91.5

Jefferson County ARES Net
Sunday at 8:30 PM
147.2WV

8 Rivers ARC Net (Pocahontas County)
Sundays at 9:00 PM
145.11 PL 107.2

Monday

Pocahontas County Coffee Net
Monday-Wednesday-Friday 10:30 AM
146.730 – Tone 100.0
EchoLink WB8CNN-L

Bluefield Skywarn Net Mercer County
Monday 7:30 PM (Except first Monday)
145.490 MHz

Raleigh County ARES Net
Monday 8:00 PM
145.370 MHz Tone 100
EchoLink 145.370-R

Monday continued

Eastern Region ARES Net
Monday at 8:00 PM
147.255 MHz

Cabell County ARES Net
Monday at 8:30pm -
On the following linked repeaters:
W8VA 146.76 MHz PL 131.8
N8OLC 146.985 MHz PL 131.8
KB8TGK 443.850 MHz PL 162.2 (Echolink)

Potomac Highlands Amateur Radio Net
(Hardy County)
Monday 8:30 PM
145.190 MHz

Mason County Amateur Radio Group ARES Net
Monday 9:00 PM
444.300 MHz Tone 91.5

Mason County Amateur Radio Group
Monday 9:00 PM
442.400 MHz Tone 91.5

Wayne County ARES Net
Monday 9:00 PM
147.390 MHz

Monongalia Wireless Association
Monday 9:00 PM
145.430 MHz Tone 103.5

Gilmer County ARES/RACES Net
Monday 9:00 PM
145.290 MHz

Tuesday

Pioneer Amateur Radio Assn. 2 M Net
Central West Virginia
Tuesday 7:00 PM
146.835 MHz

TSARC Skywarn Net
Tuesday 7:15 PM
146.910 MHz

DMR Net by David Sexton AB8D
Tuesday at 7:30 PM W8MOP
444.45 DMR repeater on the 3154 WV Statewide talk group

Tuesday continued
Tri-Counties ARC ARES Net Boone, Lincoln and Logan Counties Tuesday at 7:30 PM 145.17 Tone 100.0
District 7 ARES Net (Raleigh County) Tuesday 8:00 PM 145.370 MHz Tone 100
WV Amateur Radio Club Information Net Tuesday at 8:30 P.M. 147.270 – offset PL Tone 123.0 EchoLink Node 439354
Multi-County ARES NET (HAMTALK System) Tuesday 9:00 PM 146.685 MHz
Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub (PARK) Tuesdays, 9:00 PM on all linked repeaters. 146.970 MHz -offset Tone 91.5 147.390 MHz +offset Tone 91.5 444.725 MHz + offset Tone 91.5
Coal Country ARC Net (Boone County) Tuesday 9:00 PM 147.195 MHz
Stonewall Jackson ARA 2 M Net Tuesday 9:00 PM 147.210 MHz Tone 103.5
Wednesday
Pocahontas County Coffee Net Monday-**Wednesday**-Friday 10:30 AM 146.730 – Tone 100.0 EchoLink WB8CNN-L
Marion County ARES Net Wednesday 8:00 PM 145.350 MHz
Mon County Amateur Radio Club Net Wednesday at 8:00 PM 147.075 Tone 103.5 Linked to HAMTALK System
Northern WV ARES/RACES Net Wednesday 8:30 PM 145.300 MHz

Wednesday continued
MARA weekly ARES WX net Wednesdays, 9:00 P.M. 145.35 MHz PL 103.5
Thursday
The West Virginia ARES HF Net **First Thursday of each month** After WV Fone Net at 2200 UTC 3.805 MHz or 7.235 MHz
Mercer County ARES Net **Third Thursday** 7:30 PM 145.490 MHz
Country Roads Net Thursday 8:00 P.M - WV-Link Room 46488 Local Node Connection: WVAR UHF 441.825 (Scott Depot, WV) WB8CQV VHF 147.21 MHz (S. Charleston) Hot spots use US-WV-LINK (19941)
Buffalo 10 Meter Net Thursday 8:00 PM **28.405 MHz**
Plateau Amateur Radio Assn. 2 M .Net Thursday 8:00 PM 146.790 MHz
Central Ohio Operators Klub (COOKEN) Thursday 8:30 PM **50.500 MHz**
Pendleton County ARES/RACES Net Second & Fourth Thursday 8:30 PM 147.345 MHz
Fayette County ARES Training & Info Net **Second & Fourth Thursdays** 8:30 PM 146.790 MHz
CWVWA Net Thursday 9:00 PM 147.165 MHz Tone 91.5
8 Rivers 6 Meter Net (Pocahontas Cnty) Thursday, 9:00 PM **53.33 MHZ** Tone 156
Ritchie Amateur Group (RAG) Net Thursday at 9:00 PM 147.300 MHz Tone 107.2

Friday
Pocahontas County Coffee Net Monday-Wednesday-**Friday** 10:30 AM 146.730 – Tone 100.0 EchoLink WB8CNN-L
Tri-State Skywarn Net Friday's at 8:00 PM On WVAR's 147.270 Tone 123 (linked to Ashland' 's 146.94 repeater.)
Black Diamond ARC Net (Raleigh Cnty) Friday, 9:00 PM 145.370 MHz PL 100.0

Saturday
Ohio Valley ARES Net Saturday 10:00 AM 441.825 Mhz
Mountain State FM Net Saturday 9:00 PM 145.370 MHz
Please submit any corrections or additional nets to Jim Hudson, KE8PNY at nettlescreek@frontier.com

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO WV SPLATTER

It was only a year ago that Scott Nasby, KB8ZIO sent me the format for this newletter and suggested I do something with it. Since then I have tried to put out a newsletter for every ham in West Virginia, not just the local clubs I am affiliated with.

The distribution has increased tremendously. Primarily due to readers forwarding it on to other hams who ask if they can pass it on to still other hams. My response has always been YES!

So if you know a ham who might like WV SPLATTER, feel free to pass it on. As I've said elsewhere, they don't have to be a local club member, or even from West Virginia.

Seventy-three and good luck on all your Hamdevors.

Jim Hudson, KE8PNY

OTHER FREQUENCIES FOR SCANNERS

If you have a scanner running and listen for non-ham bands, you might be interested in the following frequencies for airplane pilots. **For pilot-to-pilot communication**, you can use the air-to-air frequency of **122.75 MHz**. Other common frequencies include:

- **123.025 MHz** for general aviation helicopters.
- **123.45 MHz** for short conversations or chatting.
- **123.3 and 123.5 MHz** for gliders and hot air balloons.

In addition to these “air” frequencies, you might be interested in the marine channels and frequencies identified on the following page. While visiting port cities and towns along river systems I have spent many hours listening to boat operations and watching shjps go past.

Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

MARINE VHF RADIO CHANNELS

The chart below summarizes a portion of the FCC rules -- 47 CFR 80.371(c) and 80.373(f)

Type of Message	Appropriate channel(s)
DISTRESS SAFETY AND CALLING - Use this channel to get the attention of another station (calling) or in emergencies (distress and safety).	16
INTERSHIP SAFETY - Use this channel for ship-to-ship safety messages and for search and rescue messages and ships and aircraft of the Coast Guard.	6
COAST GUARD LIAISON - Use this channel to talk to the Coast Guard (but first make contact on Channel 16).	22
NONCOMMERCIAL - Working channels for voluntary boats. Messages must be about the needs of the ship. Typical uses include fishing reports, rendezvous,scheduling repairs and berthing information. Use Channels 67 and 72 only for ship-to-ship messages.	9(fn6), 68, 69, 71, 72, 78, 79(fn4), 80(fn4)
COMMERCIAL - Working channels for working ships only. Messages must be about business or the needs of the ship. Use channels 8, 67, 72 and 88 only for ship-to-ship messages.	1(fn5), 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 63(fn5), 67, 72(fn7), 79, 80, 88(fn1)
PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE (MARINE OPERATOR) - Use these channels to call the marine operator at a public coast station. By contacting a public coast station, you can make and receive calls from telephones on shore. Except for distress calls, public coast stations usually charge for this service.	24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88(fn2)
PORT OPERATIONS - These channels are used in directing the movement of ships in or near ports, locks or waterways. Messages must be about the operational handling movement and safety of ships. In certain major ports, Channels 11,12 and are not available for general port operations messages. Use channel 20 only for ship-to-coast messages. Channel 77 is limited to intership communications to and from pilots	1(fn5), 5(fn3), 12, 14, 20, 63(fn5), 65, 66, 73, 74, 77
NAVIGATIONAL - (Also known as the bridge-to-bridge channel.) This channel is available to all ships. Messages must be about ship navigation, for example, passing or meeting other ships. You must keep your messages short. Your power output must not be more than one watt. This is also the main working channel at most locks and drawbridges.	13, 67
MARITIME CONTROL - This channel may be used to talk to ships and coast stations operated by state or local governments. Messages must pertain to regulation and control, booting activities, or assistance to ships.	17
DIGITAL SELECTIVE CALLING - Use this channel for distress and safety calling and for general purpose calling using only digital selective calling techniques.	70
WEATHER - On these channels you may receive weather broadcasts of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. These channels are only for receiving. You cannot transmit on them.	Wx-1 162.55 Wx-2 162.4 Wx-3 162.475

Footnotes to table

1. Not available in the Great Lakes, St. Lawrence Seaway, or the Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de Fuca and its approaches.
2. Only for use In the Great Lakes, St Lawrence Seaway, and Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de fuca and its approaches.
3. Available only In the Houston and New Orleans areas.
4. Available only in the Great Lakes.
5. Available only In the New Orleans area.
6. Available for Intership, ship, and coast general purpose calling by noncommercial ships.
7. Available only In the Puget Sound and the Strait of Juan de Fuca.